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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/096,515	06/12/98	INOUE	Y 35.G2190

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NEW YORK NY 10112

EXAMINER

DORSEY, D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3635

DATE MAILED:

09/15/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/096,515

Applicant(s)
Yuji Inoue et al.

Examiner
Dennis L. Dorsey

Group Art Unit
3635



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 12, 1998

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 6

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the last line of the abstract refers to the purported merits of the application and in line 9 the phrase "prevent" appears to be wrong and should be "present". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1 and 3, the claim is indefinite and confusing because it appears to set forth the limitation that the electrical conductive lead and connector are composed of at least one selected from the group listed. However, the specification sets forth that the jacket material of the electrical conductive lead and connector is composed of at least one selected from the group listed. For the purpose of prosecuting the application the Examiner understands the limitation to be in reference to the jacket material surrounding the lead and connector.

5. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted structural cooperative relationships are: the building material and a power inverter.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori in view of Hayami.

Mori teaches all the limitations in the above claims except the composition of the jacket of the connector and electrical lead. Mori teaches solar cell modules (40) fixed to a metal substrate (39) and electrically connected by connector (42), cable (43) and junction box (44). Hayami teaches lead wire surrounded by a jacket made composed of polyethylene resin. It would be obvious to select such a material that is well known in the art. One skilled in the art at the time the invention was made would select this composition to provide superior protection of the electrical lead.

8. Claims 4-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoyama et al. in view Hayami.

Itoyama et al. teaches all the limitations of the above claims except the composition of the jacket of the connector and electrical lead and method. Itoyama teaches solar cell (101), metal substrate (107), backing material (104), electrically connected (113), spacers (102), power converter (column 3, lines 12-15), and air flow apparatus (see figure 8).

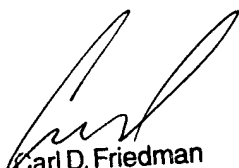
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Hayami teaches lead wire surrounded by a jacket made composed of polyethylene resin. It would be obvious to select such a material that is well known in the art. One skilled in the art at the time the invention was made would select this composition to provide superior protection of the electrical lead.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis L. Dorsey whose telephone number is (703) 306-9137.


Carl D. Friedman
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600

DLD 

September 9, 1999